

A STORY OF A FIENDISH PLOT

THE REBEL SCHEM TO SPREAD YELLOW FEVER.

COLLECTING THE POISON AT BERMUDA—HOW IT WAS DEPICTED.

Of the 237 Consuls in the service of the United States, Charles M. Allen, of Bermuda, is one of the oldest. He was appointed on August 7, 1861, and in the whole list there are only two whose appointments bear a previous date.

Mr. Allen has been visiting his relatives and friends in New-York and Brooklyn, and returned recently to his post. He spent one afternoon with his daughter, Mrs. C. P. Whitney, at the Gelsey House, and it was during this visit that a TRIBUNE reporter met him. The conversation naturally turned on Bermuda.

"Don't you have yellow fever there?" inquired the reporter.

"No, we have no yellow fever; have had none for years. I don't think we have had anything of that sort worth mentioning since 1864, when an attempt was made to ship the disease to America, in order to devastate the Union Army."

"Will you not give me an account of the detection of that atrocious scheme?"

"It was I who first discovered the dastardly plot, and called the attention of the authorities to it," he replied, with some animation, "but I do not know if I can tell you much more than has already been published."

"Your principal office at Bermuda was that time at St. Georges, and it was there that the yellow fever broke out with the greatest violence. Luke P. Blackburn, who is now the Governor of Kentucky, came over from Halifax, with his man servant and horse and buggy, and representing himself as a physician, offered to attend the yellow fever sufferers in hospital.

"There were many points in his conduct that were suspicious, and rumors of these from time to time reached me. In the first place, the other members of the medical profession there did not believe he was a physician because he was so coarse and illiterate; and one of the hospital nurses said that whenever one of her patients was sick he would stretch out a handkerchief to catch the black vomit, and afterward wrap up the handkerchief and carry it away with him. This, together with his close connection with the resident Confederates, led me to mention my suspicions to some of the officials, but they laughed at me."

"It was nearly a year after he first came before I got to the bottom of the matter, and it happened in this way: There was some trouble in Major Walker's office, and a Swiss who was employed there was summarily discharged. Thinking that I might possibly obtain some information from this man in regard to my suspicions, which I had been all the time endeavoring to verify, I sent for him. This was early in 1865. With some persuasion I got him the whole facts. The Confederates were, as I suspected, sending infected clothes to the United States, and this was the way in which it was done:

"Dr. Blackburn first rolled up this black vomit, in the manner before described. Then, when a patient died, he had his clothes stripped off and cast through the hospital window. His man servant was waiting below and carried the things away. With a hint from this Swiss I learned where they were taken to, and with some difficulty procured a warrant to search the place. At first the officials laughed at my application, but I was very earnest, and in a day or two I succeeded in obtaining the warrant, with two policemen to assist me in the search. In the room indicated by the Swiss we found a large table standing in the centre, covered with an oil-cloth cover that reached the floor on the sides. I lifted this, and underneath we found four trunks. On opening them they appeared to be filled with new damask underclothing, such as was then supplied by the United States War Department. This clothing was laid in layers with infected clothing. First there came these new flannels, then a layer of taffy rags and the handkerchiefs filled with the black vomit, then another layer of new underclothing, and so on. The trunks were taken to the police station, where they were all opened, and they were afterward removed to one of the outer islands and buried. Afterward I was afraid that the Confederates might get and drag them up, so I gained permission of the Mayor of St. George's to have holes drilled through the earth and the boxes and vitriol poured in."

"The man in whose possession the trunks were found was arrested for harboring a nuisance and sent to jail. He had been regularly employed, it is true, in a drug store, and his services were highly valued, and direct and thorough business experience, and testimony of the highest character. Address A. B. STEPHENS, Esq., 100 Nassau Street, New-York.

A YOUNG MAN with best education desires a situation in a wholesale or commission house, not afraid to work best testimonials. Address J. M. 49 Schenectady, N. Y.

A YOUNG MAN, 21 years of age, possesses a strong physique, and is well educated. He is anxious to work, and finding present position unsatisfactory, would like to forward in the fact, because the cold weather would have rendered them useless, possibly, and they were to have been shipped to New-York, that spring. This same man, however, has a good record, and is now in the service of a firm from Savannah, the name of which was handed by a confidential informant to me in the south. He is a good cook, and has a good record. Address D. H. 211 Chrystie St., City.

BOOKKEEPER.—By a young man, 22, 23, assistant book-keeper or clerk in store. Address B. E. Phillips, Lownson office, 128 Broadway.

BOOKKEEPER OR COLLECTOR.—By a young man, 19, as first-class book-keeper or collector, or for any other office. Good city references. Address E. K. Ross, 377 Hudson.

BOOKKEEPER OR SALESMAN.—A young man, 19 years of age, temperate, industrious, willing with every respect, experience, and knowledge of business, wishes to be engaged in the retail trade. Address J. J. Tribune Upton office, 128 Broadway.

COOK.—A young man as cook, shipping, receiving, discharging, bill-clerk, or other office work, to a hotel, restaurant, or similar establishment, for a month, \$100, with board. Address W. H. 211 Chrystie St., City.

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